

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3288

ANSWERED ON:15.04.2008

MPEDA PROPOSAL FOR SETTING UP OF NEW BRANCHES

Barman Shri Ranen

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether 'Marine Products Export Development Authority' is considering a proposal to set up new branches in various States especially in West Bengal and Andhra Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise; and

(c) the steps taken to assist shrimp farmers with the latest scientific knowledge/technology by MPEDA?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY(SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH)

(a) No, Sir.

(b) Not applicable.

(c) MPEDA is implementing a number of promotional activities to assist shrimp farmers with the latest scientific knowledge/technology in shrimp culture. Some of the activities are as under: -

- 1) Organizing training programmes on sustainable shrimp/scampi culture
- 2) Organizing training for members of SC/ST communities
- 3) Organizing demonstration programmes on diversified species for aquaculture
- 4) Organizing seminars/workshops
- 5) Inter-state study tours for farmers

MPEDA has initiated a new scheme for organizing the small-scale farmers into Aqua Farmer's Societies. MPEDA extends a financial incentive upto a maximum of Rs.5 lakh in a phased manner for acquiring common facilities required by the members of these societies for operating shrimp culture in a sustainable manner. MPEDA has also set up a separate society named National Centre for Sustainable Aquaculture (NaCSA), with its head quarter at Kakinada, Andhra Pradesh which is employing state coordinators and Field Managers for working with small-scale farmers by adopting latest technology in shrimp culture.